

Nadu, die 2-9-1963; typus positus in CAL, isotypi in MH; paratype *Henry* 17422A-F lecti eodem in loco, positi in MH.

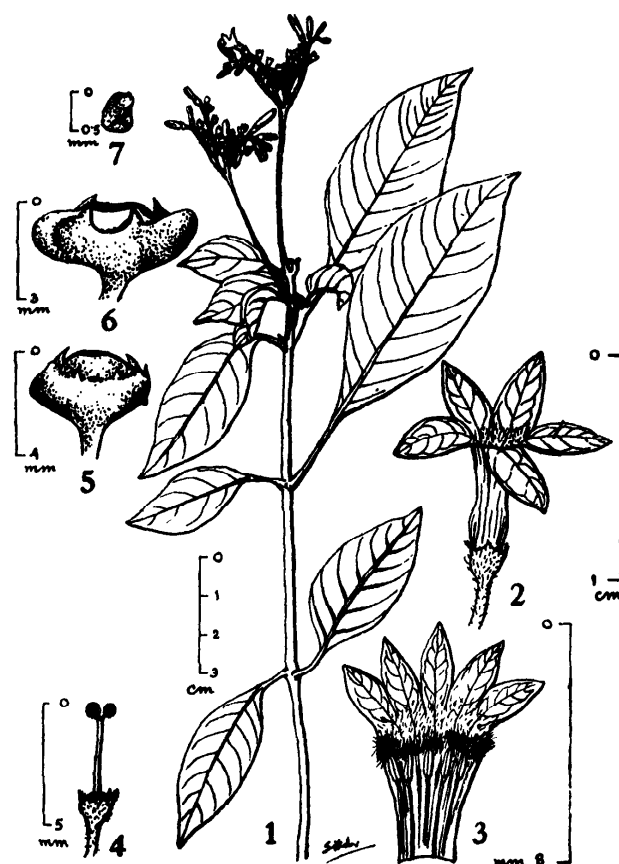
Much-branched, decumbent herbs, somewhat woody at base; stems slender, minutely rusty-puberulous. Leaves up to 8.4×3.2 cm, linear-lanceate to elliptic-lanceate, membranous, glabrous above, glaucous beneath (nerves somewhat puberulous), shortly acuminate at apex, narrowed at base; petioles up to 2.4 cm long, minutely rusty-puberulous; stipules interpetiolar, caducous. Flowers secund on branches of axillary or terminal, solitary, rusty-puberulous cymes; peduncles up to 5 cm long, slender. Calyx-lobes 5, small, persistent. Corolla white, tubular, throat densely hairy; tube 5-6 mm long; lobes 5, each $3-4 \times 1$ mm, ovate-oblong, acute or shortly acuminate, recurved. Stamens 5, inserted on corolla-tube, included; filaments slender; anthers linear. Disc epigynous, glandular, of 2 large lobes. Ovary 2-celled; ovules many on basal ascending placentas; style filiform; stigmas 2, flattened. Capsules $2-3 \times 4-5$ mm, obcordate, compressed, coriaceous, puberulous, girt by calyx-limb. Seeds minute, angled. (Figs. 1-7)

The holotype *Henry* 17419A (CAL), isotypes *Henry* 17419B-F (MH) and paratypes *Henry* 17422A-F (MH) were collected near Upper Godaiyar in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, on 2-9-1963.

This species is probably allied to the Malayan *Ophiorrhiza rosacea* Ridley. Our specimens could not be matched with any of the *Ophiorrhiza* species as represented in MH, CAL, LE and K.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England and Dr. I. T. Vassilzenko, Curator of the Herbarium, Komarov Botanical Institute, Leningrad, U.S.S.R., for providing



Ophiorrhiza tirunelvelica Henry & Subr.

Figs. 1-7: 1. Flowering branch. 2. Flower. 3. Corolla split opened. 4. Gynoecium. 5 & 6. Fruits. 7. Seed.

facilities to examine the specimens of *Ophiorrhiza* as represented in their herbaria. We are also indebted to Dr. D. B. Deb for his valuable opinion on our specimens, and to Dr. M. P. Nayar for the latin rendering of the description.

A. N. HENRY AND K. SUBRAMANYAM
Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta

[*BULBOPHYLLUM PILULIFERUM* KING & PANTL.—A NEW RECORD FOR ASSAM

In one of the numerous floristic explorations, in the evergreen forests near Jowai, in Jaintia Hills, Assam, during May, 1965, an abundant epiphytic orchid, with inconspicuous flowers growing on trunks of *Quercus* and *Cinnamomum*, was collected and on subsequent detailed analysis was found to be

Bulbophyllum piluliferum King & Pantl., a species first described from Sikkim on a single specimen and hitherto unknown from Assam. Hence, this is the first record for Assam and a second locality for the species. A search in Central National Herbarium revealed two earlier collections from Jaintia Hills.

Since the original description, based as it was on a solitary specimen, is not comprehensive, detailed descriptive notes are furnished below.

Bulbophyllum piluliferum King & Pantling in Ann. R. Bot. Gard. Calc. 8:76. t. 104. 1898.

Pseudobulbs covered with rudimentary scarious leaf sheaths. *Leaves* at the apex of pseudobulbs, solitary, 4.5-7.0 cm long, 7-9 mm broad; petioles channelled. *Peduncles* lateral at the base of pseudobulbs, solitary, suberect, dark pink, 4-5 cm long. *Flowers* dark purple with darker streaks, ca 7 mm long. *Sepals* 3-nerved, subequal, 4-5 mm long, 2-3 mm broad. *Petals* 1-nerved, smaller than the sepals, ca 2 mm long, ca 1 mm broad. *Lip* mobile, ca 3 mm long, ca 2 mm broad. *Column* erect, ca 1 mm long; foot ca 1.5 mm long. *Pollinia* 4, in two groups.

Jaintia Hills, 1000 m, May 1897, *Pantling* s.n. (CAL); Samantung, Jaintia Hills, May 1899, *Prain's Collector* 281 (CAL); Mukjiar riverside, 8 km from Jowai, on Jowai-Jarain Road, 1350 m, 31 May 1965, *Balakrishnan* 42283 (ASSAM)—Under cultivation at National Orchidarium, Shillong, block No. 2972.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are thankful to Dr. A. S. Rao, Regional Botanist, Botanical Survey of India, Shillong for guidance.

N. P. BALAKRISHNAN

Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair

AND

BIJAY KRISHNA

Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta

NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *EVOLVULUS NUMMULARIUS* LINN. IN KERALA STATE

During a study on the flora of Calicut and suburbs (Kerala), *Evolvulus nummularius* was collected from Feroke (Calicut District) and Tenhippalam (Malappuram District) as a common weed on roadsides and waste lands. Although it shows robust growth in moist localities it grows quite well in drier areas also. This is the first report of its occurrence in Kerala State. A brief description of this species is given below to facilitate easy identification.

Evolvulus nummularius Linn. Sp. Pl. 391, 1762; Van Ooststroom, Mon. Gen. Evolv. 114, 1934. *Convolvulus nummularius* Linn. Sp. Pl. 157, 1753. *Evolvulus alsinoides* Jackson, in Ind. Kew. 1: 940, 1893 (non Linn.).

Perennial prostrate pilose branching herb, rooting at the nodes; leaves alternate, bifarious up to 25 × 18 mm but very variable in size, and with 2-5 pairs of lateral nerves; flowers 1-2 in the leaf axils, with white corolla, basally divergent anther cells and two distinct bifurcating styles for the ovary; capsule glabrous, globular and four-valved seeds four or less, brown to black.

Distribution: A native of Brazil, *E. nummularius* is distributed in America, West Indies, Tropical

Africa and Madagascar. In Malaya it is reported from the West Coast of Malayan Peninsula as a comparatively recent introduction. It is now naturalized in India, and is reported from Bombay, (Santapau, 1947); Bengal and Bihar (Van Ooststroom, 1958) Madhya Pradesh and Andhra (Balakrishnan, 1964).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are thankful to Dr. N. C. Nair for confirming the identification and for drawing our attention to this and to Prof. B. K. Nayar, Head of the Department, University of Calicut, Calicut for providing all facilities.

V. V. SIVARAJAN AND K. S. MANILAL
University of Calicut, Calicut

REFERENCES

- SANTAPAU, H. Notes on the convolvulaceae of Bombay, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 47:340, 1947.
PRAIN, D. *Bengal Plants* II (Rep. Ed.). 539, 1963.
VAN OOSTSTROOM. *Flora Malesiana* I :558, t. 3, 1958.
BALAKRISHNAN, N. P. New Plant records from South India, *Bull. bot. Surv. India* 6 : 81-92, 1964.